

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-10

NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

DODE-00 /056 W

----- 102010

R 192300Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5691

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS OTTAWA 594

EO 11652 NA

TAGS MMOL MPOL CA

SUBJ CANADIAN MILITARY SEARCH FOR ARMORED VEHICLES NARROWS

REF OTTAWA 202

1. IN PRESS RELEASE DATED FEBRUARY 14 CANADIAN DEFENSE MINISTER JAMES RICHARDSON ANNOUNCED THAT "THE SEARCH FOR A NEW FAMILY OF GENERAL PURPOSE, WHEELED ARMORED VEHICLES FOR THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES HAS BEEN NARROWED DOWN TO ENTRIES FROM BRAZIL, SWITZERLAND AND THE UNITED STATES."

2. ACCORDING TO THE RELEASE, ASSESSMENT CRITERIA FOR THE AVGP (ARMORED VEHICLE GENERAL PURPOSE) INCLUDES SUCH FACTORS AS OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE, TECHNICAL SUITABILITY, INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND PROGRAM PRICE. THE US COMMANDO, THE SWISS PIRANHA, AND THE BRAZILIAN URUTU ARE THOSE BEING CONSIDERED. THE THREE WILL UNDERGO WINTER TRIALS DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH TO DETERMINE THEIR PERFORMANCE UNDER COLD-WEATHER CONDITIONS.

3. THE RELEASE CONCLUDES BY STATING THAT THE "FORCES' REQUIREMENTS AT PRODUCTION TIME WILL
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DETERMINETHE SIZE OF THE CONTRACT TO BE AWARDED

ON FINAL SELECTION."

4. COMMENT: THE PURCHASE OF THESE VEHICLES IS
IN KEEPING WITH THE MILITARY PROGRAM ANNOUNCED BY
MR. RICHARDSON ON JANUARY 17 (REFTEL) AND DOES NOT
REPRESENT NEW EXPENDITURES FOR THE BUDGET.
PORTER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, MILITARY VEHICLES, PROPOSALS (BID)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OTTAWA00594
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750060-0125
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750232/aaaabcel.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 OTTAWA 202
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CANADIAN MILITARY SEARCH FOR ARMORED VEHICLES NARROWS
TAGS: MMOL, MPOL, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006